



## CHIEF'S CORNER

BY POLICE CHIEF MARK DELUCA

I have been invited to participate monthly with reporting information relating to your police department. I truly appreciate the opportunity and am honored.

I will start my first week with an overview of our department so that you may better understand our operation.

The Duxbury Police Department has 31 full-time civil service positions: the police chief, three lieutenants, six sergeants and 21 police officers.

When we are at full shift, we have three police officers and one supervisor working the street, and we operate with three detectives.

The Duxbury Police Department utilizes motorcycles and bicycles for patrol. We have a full time school resource officer who continuously proves to be a real asset. We enjoy a great working relationship with our schools as well with other departments in town.

We have several officers involved in a regional response team who that can support our department tactically, if needed.

The Duxbury Police K-9 officer is considered to be one of the best in the State which is evidenced by the numerous requests we get for his assistance from outside communities.

I have given you a brief overview of your department. I look forward to reporting to you through the *Clipper* regularly.

### Questions about new station

Following Town Meeting and elections, one of the questions posed to me was why can't we build the new station at our current existing site? Below are several reasons why this is not an option:

The square footage of our existing site is 1.16 acres – directly behind our building is rock ledge making it impractical to develop the land.

The lack of square footage would make it impossible to install a septic system to code. Current laws and legal requirements regarding jail cells and vehicle Sally Port access make it impossible with our current site. If the lot size was sufficient we would still have the problem relating to continuing operations while constructing the new facility.

We are unable to support our growing needs regarding electrical, technical, mechanical and legal issues.

The Duxbury Police Department has grown from 11 full-time male officers to 39 full-time employees and twenty part-time employees, nine of whom are women.

Our expanding responsibilities, due the nature of this litigious society, have increased our role as a police department subsequently increasing our need for space. The proposed square footage for the police station is 16,587 sq. ft. plus an additional 2,188 sq. ft. for the harbormaster's facility.

Here in Duxbury, the Harbormaster and his two executive officers are special police officers—their responsibilities, in part, deal with enforcement of laws, so they work closely with the police department.

I encourage residents with questions or concerns to please feel free to contact me at 781-934-5656.